8th October 1928]

(b) whether this help was rendered on requisition by the Railway authorities and whether they paid anything towards the cost thereof, if so, how much, and if not, why not; and

(c) whether one of the objects of this display of police force was to strike terror into the strikers and force them into submission?

A.—(a) The services of the police were employed in preventing illegal acts on the railway, in enforcing the law and preserving the public peace and in protecting as far as possible the travelling public. An estimate of the cost has been called for.

(b) The railway company did not requisition the services of the police.

(c) No.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"In regard to the answer to clause (a) of this question, may I know whether the firing by the police in Tuticorin and Trichinopoly without any magisterial order was also to enforce law and preserve public peace?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I have not heard the question, so I would request that it may be repeated."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"I am asking whether, in the many services which the Police rendered to the Railway, the firing on unarmed crowds without the order of any magistrate at all both at Tuticorin and Trichinopoly was also for the purpose of enforcing law and preserving public peace?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"They had to preserve law and order."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"May I know whether the Government have enquired that firing was done without any magisterial order, and whether they satisfied themselves that it was in pursuance of their duty to enforce law?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"The Government have examined the question and have come to the conclusion that everything was done all right."

Civil Justice

Publication of the Law Reports.

*364 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state what steps are taken (i) to avoid delays in the publication of the authorized law reports, (ii) to reduce the number of private publications of law reports and (iii) to standardize the reports?

A.—(i) The matter is under correspondence between the Government and the Council of Law Reporting.

(ii) & (iii) These are matters which are now engaging the attention of the Government of India and this Government are not in a position to make any definite statement at this stage.